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COPPERHEADISM IN THE HOUSE.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1863.
TREATIES WITH PERU RATIFIED.
The Senate, in executive session, to-day ratified two treaties with Peru. By one of the cases, the Georgia and the Lizzie Thompson, involving the question of the sovereignty of the Gann Islands, are referred to King Leopold of Belgium as arbitrator. By the other, all other claims between Peru and the United States are referred to a joint commission of four, two named by each party, to sit at Lima. Ratifications are to be exchanged within six months.

THE CONSCRIPTION BILL.
The Senate Conscription bill has not yet been discussed in the House Military Committee. It is understood, however, that that Committee will object to none of its provisions, and they will probably urge its passage without a reference. If referred, it will be immediately reported back.

FOREIGN VESSELS AND THE COASTING TRADE.
The Secretary of the Treasury has decided that a line of foreign steamships running from New-York to San Francisco, via any one of the transit routes, does not fall within the prohibition forbidding foreign bottoms from engaging in the coasting trade.

THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR INVESTIGATION.
The Committee on the Conduct of the War, who are rapidly closing up their very voluminous report and testimony, embracing all the ground which they have gone over since their organization, examined Gen. Heintzelman, Sumner and Averell yesterday and to-day. Gen. Heintzelman is said to have been interrogated concerning doubtful points in the Peninsular campaign; Gen. Averell concerning the cavalry raid which he was about to lead against the rear of the Rebel army, when orders countermanding those of Gen. Burnside were received from Washington. Gen. Sumner was able to testify with regard to both subjects.

THE PUNISHMENT OF NORTHERN TRAITORS.
The House Judiciary Committee has not yet authorized a bill for the punishment of Northern traitors or Copperheads to be reported. Such a bill has, however, been drawn up by Mr. Bingham, who will leave to print and refer it.

A HOME FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS.
Some days ago Mr. Wright introduced a bill to the House providing for the disbursement of the appropriation of two millions made at the last session for the benefit of poor discharged disabled soldiers by appointing the President, Secretary of War and Surgeon-General to select a suitable site or sites for the establishment of homes for these classes of soldiers, within convenient distances of routes for railroads or vessels. The President, Secretary of War and Surgeon-General have authority to erect the buildings, make necessary expenditures and establish rules and regulations. The bill referred to the Military Committee received yesterday its unanimous approval. Col. Wright was authorized to report it back to the House and recommend its immediate passage.

CHANGE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL.
Col. Doster was to-day at his own request relieved as Provost-Marshal of this District. He is succeeded by Capt. Todd of the 1st New-York Cavalry. Col. Doster has held this arduous and responsible position for over a year with great satisfaction to his superiors and the public, by whom he will certainly be missed. He rejoins his regiment, the 4th Pennsylvania Cavalry, in a few days.

THE AMENDMENTS TO THE WAYS AND MEANS BILL.
It is thought by some of the strongest friends of the Senate amendments made to the Ways and Means bill that few of those in which the House non-concurred will be adopted by the Committee of Conference. It is expected that the bill as finally made a law, will embrace the destructive features of the original House bill, including the section authorizing the issue of three hundred millions of legal tender notes.

THE BANKING BILL.
The action of the House on the Banking bill, should it take place before the Conference Committee make their report, will be likely to modify it.

THE INDEMNIFICATION BILL.
The House is sitting late to-night. The bill indemnifying the President being consideration Mr. Voorhies made a vehement Copperhead speech against it this afternoon, and to-night "My Maryland" voice has been heard.

EXPLODING MINES AND SHELLS BY ELECTRICITY.
The President and Secretary of War, with many military and scientific gentlemen, witnessed, a day or two ago, some interesting experiments made at Fort De Kalb by Col. Alexander, Engineer of the defenses of Washington, in the explosion of mines and 15-inch shells by electricity from the instruments of the field telegraph trains of the Signal Corps. A detachment of the corps were on the ground with one of their trains, making the firings on the order of Col. Alexander. The explosions were instantaneous and of terrific force.

New-York Tribune

VOL. XXII.....NO. 6,826. NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1863. PRICE THREE CENTS.

a heavy sea, he submits that he should not be held responsible for not knowing the absolute resistance of a piece of metal by a visual examination of its exterior surface.
The Quincy ran into the same port with a blister in one of her furnaces—a defect not discoverable until the application of heat; moreover, the plate had passed the examination of the boiler-maker and engineer. In the case of the Niagara it was said to be impossible, with thirty other examinations on hand, to give the frame of the vessel a full examination. He examined her last Summer, since which her owner had expended eight or ten thousand dollars in repairs, and made certain suggested improvements. He reported her fit for the navigation of short sea routes, lakes, and sounds.

APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED.
The Senate to-day in Executive Session confirmed the following nominations of Consuls: Charles Gilbert Wheeler, at Nuremberg; Noah E. Wilson of Indiana, at La Union, San Salvador; J. S. Howard of Pennsylvania, San Juan del Sur; D. Bristol of Maine, at Rio Grande, Brazil; F. Crosby of Kentucky, at Geneva; Wm. E. Phelps of Illinois, at St. Petersburg; Wm. W. Thomas, Jr., of Maine, at Rotterdam; James Lant of Illinois, at Dundee; W. R. G. Mellen of Massachusetts, at Port Louis, Mauritius. Also, F. M. Army of Kansas, as Secretary of the Territory of New-Mexico; Edward Evans of Washington Territory, as Secretary of that Territory; Zenas C. Robbins of the District of Columbia, to be Register of Wills for the County of Washington; Alfred M. Wood of Brooklyn, N. Y., to be Collector of Internal Revenue for the 11th District of New-York; James Mann of Maine, to be additional Paymaster of Volunteers.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

Industry of the Rebels—Large Force two miles south of Fredericksburg—Treacherous among Sentries—Court-Martial Trials.
WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1863.
From statements of gentlemen who have returned from the Rappahannock, it appears that the Rebels are working with great energy and industry. They have thrown up two lines of breastworks opposite to Falmouth, on the low grounds near the river, and are continuing them along the river bank in front of Fredericksburg.

Jackson's force is said to be back of the first range of hills, two miles south of Fredericksburg. The smoke of a large camp there was plainly seen yesterday, and the woods are fast disappearing in that vicinity, showing the presence of a large force. The Rebel headquarters are plainly seen from our side, through a powerful glass. Lee is supposed to be there. The position is two miles S. S. W. from Fredericksburg.

LATE SOUTHERN NEWS.

Savings of the Richmond Dispatch—The North on the Verge of Ruin—John Van Buren Denounced.
HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1863.
The Richmond Dispatch of the 17th inst., editorially, that the North is fighting as much for self-preservation as Southern subjugation; that the time when the National Government sought to extinguish the South has passed, and the further prosecution of the war is to save the North from the avalanche of ruin which the success of the South must precipitate. It argued that our manufactures would tumble into ruin and our ships and commerce rot if the South should accomplish its objects, and predicts that cities rivaling those of the North would spring up in the South, and the present fountains of revenue to the North be transferred to the South.

In another article the same paper denounces John Van Buren for turning a political emigrant, and repudiates all idea of mediation, recognition and intervention as tending to a relaxation of efforts in filling up the ranks of the army. It calls for the rallying of the whole physical force of the South, as the present time is the most critical in the whole period of the war. Every man should be at his post. The Conscription law has been faithfully executed in Virginia, and should be executed with equal fidelity in every other State. Enrolling officers should do their duty with searching and unshrinking energy.

Information has been received by the Rebel forces near Williamsburg that on Sunday a large force of National troops were landing at Newport News. Private advices from Nassau to the 10th inst. state that the Florida has sent the Annie to the bottom. The Jackson (Miss.) Crisis states that a telegram announces that a new appointment has been made for Gen. Holmes's district, and that Sterling Price will be placed in active command of the troops in that Department, taking with him all the Mississippi regiments now in the Army of the West.

The following is a copy of an intercepted order. It shows the steps taken to receive the services of dismissed orders from the Rebel service.

HEADQUARTERS, CAMP OF INSTRUCTION, NEAR RICHMOND, Jan. 9, 1863.
CAPTAIN: A communication has been received from the Adjutant and Inspector-General's office, stating that Corlin E. Cratchfield of Company B, 9th Virginia Cavalry, has been discharged from the service by order of the Secretary of War.

If C. E. Cratchfield be between the ages of 18 and 40 years, and be found to be fit for service by the Surgeon, you will forward him to this camp as a conscript.

Very respectfully,
JOSEPH H. BINFORD, Lieut. and Adj. To Capt. W. C. FLEET, Fleetwood Academy, King and Queen County.

The War in the South-West.
CINCINNATI, Feb. 18, 1863.
A military commission is now in session at St. Louis for the investigation of the administration of affairs at Island No. 10 and New-Madrid. All dispatches sent from here to newspapers in regard to the matter have been taken by the military authorities.

W. H. Calhoun, two wealthy Rebels of this city, were to-day arrested and confined in the Penitentiary as hostages for the safe return, within the Union lines, of John A. Galt and T. T. Tabb, Union men now held by the Confederates at Chattanooga. An unsuccessful attempt was made by Confederate prisoners to escape from the Penitentiary last night. One man was mortally wounded and another captured.

Cumberland River is cleared of the Rebels between Clarksville and Nashville. The river is much swollen, and is rising. The cotton lands are over-flooded.
From Fortress Monroe.
FORTRESS MONROE, Tuesday, Feb. 17, 1863.
An easterly snow-storm commenced last night, with rain. At 8 this morning the wind changed to the north-east, and has blown fresh all day. The iron-clad Nahant left here at 6 o'clock last evening for the South, under convoy.

The steamboat Canonius and Nellie Baker started for the South last evening. When 20 miles outside Cape Henry the storm commenced, and they both returned.

The flag-of-truce-boat New-York left for City Point at 11 o'clock this forenoon.

The Vicksburg Blockade Run by the Gambol Indolence.
CHICAGO, Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1863.
A special dispatch from Memphis dated the 17th inst., says:

"The new Monitor gunboat Indiana ran the blockade of Vicksburg on Friday night. In spite of the Rebel precautions, the Indiana obtained a full view of the Rebel batteries, all of which vied with each other to sink her. She passed all the Rebel batteries safely."

Naval.

TRIAL TRIP OF ANOTHER IRON-CLAD.
The Ericsson iron-clad battery Sangamon, known as Monitor No. 6, has made her trial trip, and a correspondent kindly sends us the result as follows: We are safe and sound at Fortress Monroe, where we arrived at 6 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. We know all about the Sangamon, and I herewith give you the particulars: Having put out from Chester, and left the lights behind, our engines were allowed to work as rapidly as possible for a time. They acted admirably, and enabled us to make over eight knots an hour. The conduct of the low, strange block of iron in the sea was amazing. Waves that would have sent a shiver from stem to stern of the stoutest wooden steamer, broke on our knife-like edge, and splattered their harmless foam about the turret. We were literally swimming, with only our head and neck over water half the time; and yet the steadiness of everything down stairs was remarkable. The great things to be attended to in these iron-clads are the pumps. Keep them well worked, and I would follow Columbus in the Sangamon.

The holes in the deck, which I hear have been made to accommodate officers, should be reduced in number. But there is not one shortcoming for which we have no remedy, and if an honest Captain uses all the means in his hands, the Sangamon could be as safe on the broad bosom of the ocean as at Kenny's wharf in Chester.
The double-bowed side-wheel steamer Tallapoosa was launched at Boston, as announced, on Tuesday last. She is one of the twenty new ships recently ordered, and the third adrift.
The Sassafras at Portsmouth, and the Mendota at Brooklyn, were launched some time since. The Chemung, Metacomb, and others, building in the vicinity, might be launched now if the press of work on machinery builders did not preclude the possibility of finishing their engines in season. As the vessel moved from the ship-house, a flag was hoisted from the flagstaff, the Yard hand (which was on board) played a National air, and the thousands assembled united in three hearty cheers, which were often loudly repeated. A tug was waiting for the Tallapoosa, and after the excitement abated she was to be hauled to the Dry-Dock, to be completed and finished. Her length is 240 feet, with a 35 foot beam, and a depth of 12 feet. Her armament will consist of eight broadside guns, and having been intended for harbor service, she will probably not draw more than 9 or 10 feet of water. She will be iron-plated, with bullet-proof armor, so as to resist the most powerful musket, and her bottom is copper-fastened.

Movements of Gen. Butler.
BALTIMORE, Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1863.
Gen. Butler will arrive here at 10 o'clock to-morrow on the invitation from the City Councils of Baltimore. He will dine at the Eutaw House with the Mayor and Councils to-morrow night.

FROM CAIRO AND BELOW.

Suppression of the Chicago Times—Western Democracy Giving up the Ghost—A Third Party—Gen. Grant's "Internal Improvements"—Sufferings of Families.

From Our Special Correspondent.
CAIRO, Feb. 18, 1863.
To the great joy of loyal men throughout the West and in the army, Gen. Harbut has at last forbidden the circulation of the Chicago Times within any post under his command; and as Gen. Hamilton has endorsed the order, it also will be suppressed in this Department, which includes Cairo, Cape Girardeau, Columbus, and Paducah. A new fact with reference to this paper has recently come to light, which it has been furnished to subscribers in the Rebel army. A bundle of papers, say 50, would be thrown off at the river towns, the Secesh agent would receive them, and then watch his chance to smuggle them through to the regular Rebel mail carriers.

The Cincinnati Enquirer is circulated in the same way; so also is The New-York Herald. The number of copies of The Times, which has been sent South, may be gathered from the fact that one news-dealer alone in this place has daily received 1,300 copies.
I notice that The Times, in speaking of its suppression, says, if it has been guilty of treason it ought to be prosecuted, and it invites prosecution. Certainly there is at least one Union man in Chicago who will do the country a service by accepting the invitation. It is a disgrace and a buffing shame that it was not done long ago.
Not only has The Times been deeply traitorous, but frequently it has given intelligence of important matters which was untrue. For instance, it stated a few days ago that Gen. J. A. Logan refused to leave Memphis for Vicksburg with his command, till the men were paid and clothed. Upon this Gen. Logan comes out in a letter, which he refuses to print, that he will always obey orders whether his men are in a proper condition or not, and he gives the Copperheads to understand that they mistake matters which was untrue. For instance, it stated a few days ago that Gen. J. A. Logan refused to leave Memphis for Vicksburg with his command, till the men were paid and clothed. Upon this Gen. Logan comes out in a letter, which he refuses to print, that he will always obey orders whether his men are in a proper condition or not, and he gives the Copperheads to understand that they mistake matters which was untrue. For instance, it stated a few days ago that Gen. J. A. Logan refused to leave Memphis for Vicksburg with his command, till the men were paid and clothed. Upon this Gen. Logan comes out in a letter, which he refuses to print, that he will always obey orders whether his men are in a proper condition or not, and he gives the Copperheads to understand that they mistake matters which was untrue.

The Secesh papers have also stated that the health of the army down the river is as bad as can be, but I learn, from those who ought to know, that this is untrue, and that no uncommon number of hospital cases have been reported.
Our Democratic State Legislators at last refuse to vote themselves traitors. But while they have proved themselves such at heart, they have also proved themselves cowards. Why they have recoiled upon the brink of treason is important to know. I will explain it. The objection was well, I think, made every loyal heart. A victory on the Potomac would not be so important.

It is now over two months since the soldiers of the various regiments in the South have been sending word to the Copperheads at home that they would be as happy to fight them in Illinois as in Dixie. I know of some regiments which have sent word that when they get home they will hang such and such men, giving their names, to the trees nearest their homes. This has been among the privates and under-officers of all the old regiments, and these threats, instead of decreasing, are increasing, and they are growing deeper. Some of them are quite dreadful, and there is no one in Illinois as in Dixie, I know of some regiments which have sent word that when they get home they will hang such and such men, giving their names, to the trees nearest their homes. This has been among the privates and under-officers of all the old regiments, and these threats, instead of decreasing, are increasing, and they are growing deeper. 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